

SENATE SECRETARIAT

“QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS AND THEIR REPLIES”

to be asked at a sitting of the Senate to be held on

Tuesday, the 3rd February, 2015

DEFERRED QUESTIONS

(Questions Nos. 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 118, 119, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 130, 133, 135, 137, 139, 140, 143, 144, 145 and 146 Deferred on 23rd October, 2014 (108th Session))

111. (Def.) ***Mr. Kamil Ali Agha :** (Notice received on 18-06-2014 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that public and private sector universities in the country increase their fees by 10 to 15% after every semester; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to officially fix fees for the said universities, if so, when?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: (a) No, it is not a fact that universities increase their fees by 10 to 15% after every semester. Universities generally increase their fees and other charges as determined by their finance committees to maintain balance between inflation, raising cost and international standards and quality. Public Sector Universities on the average increase their fees up to 10% after every three years and Private sector Universities up to 5% annually.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government to officially fix fee for the universities. The issue of students' fees is a very delicate issue all over the world in which extensive research has been done over the past decades and it is accepted worldwide that interfering with fees will only lower the quality.

Apart from these, universities are encouraged to mobilize their possible resources to meet their needs instead of depending entirely on the fees of students only.

112. (Def.) ***Mr. Ahmed Hassan :** (Notice received on 19-06-2014 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that NHA had launched a project for widening and carpeting of Akhagram-Panakot road but the same has not been completed so far, if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which the same will be completed;*

- (b) *whether it is a fact that a project for reconstruction of Chakdara-Timergara road has been approved, if so, the time by which work will be started on the same; and*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to construct two bridges or a by pass at Talash, on Chakdara-Timergara road as part of the said project, if so, its details?*

Minister for Communications: (a) Akhagram – Panakot section of National Highway N-45 has not been launched so far. However, Akhagram-Dir Section (46 Km) has been planned for improvement through financial assistance of the Korean EXIM Bank. Feasibility Study of this section is being carried out by the Korean Experts team. Work on the project would be started after completion of the feasibility study subject to clearance by the Korean EXIM Bank to finance the scheme.

(b) The project is not yet approved. The government has instructed to arrange financing. In this regard EXIM Bank of Korea has been approached by the EAD to finance the project. Feasibility Study of this section is being carried out by the Korean Experts team. Work on the project would be started after completion of the feasibility study subject to clearance by the Korean EXIM Bank to finance the scheme.

(c) No there isn't any proposal to construct bypass at Talash except improvement of the existing road and its allied bridges of National Highway N-45 between Chakdara and Timergara. 113. (Def.) ***Mr. Ahmed Hassan** : (Notice received on 19-06-2014 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the width of Chakdara-Mingora and Mangora-Kalam roads;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that the width of the said roads is the same as in the time of State of Swat, if so, the reasons for not widening the same so far; and*
- (c) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to reconstruct and widen the said roads, if so, its details?*

Minister for Communications: (a) The width of Chakdara - Kalam road (N-95) varies from 6 m to 7.3 m.

(b) The width of the road is same since federalization in March 2007. NHA have no archives of the said road before federalization.

(c) For improvement of N-95, NHA awarded 2 x rehabilitation schemes from km 82 97+310 amounting to Rs. 1,773.86 million under Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project funded through ADB Loan No. 2742-Pak.

Further, 4 x periodic maintenance schemes amounting to Rs. 480.57 million has been committed under Annual Maintenance Plan 201314. The summary is as under:-

Sr. No.	Project Name Amount Km - Km Million)	Status / Location	(Rs.	Progress
1.	Periodic Maintenance	00 - 26	170.07	Contractor mobilized
2.	(Structural Overlay)	76 - 82	44.35	Under Procurement
3.	Fatehpur - Madam	82 - 89+700	912.45	73%
4.	Madain - Behrain	89+700-97+310	861.41	56%
5.	Periodic Maintenance	92 - 117	162.72	Contractor mobilized
6.	(Structural Overlay)	117 - 131	103.431	Under mobilization

In addition to this, NHA awarded 4 x emergency maintenance and 3 x special maintenance works amounting to Rs. 145.4 million for repair, maintenance and improvement of N-95 during FY 2013-14.

The Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) amounting to US\$ 33.90 million as a grant to GOP has been arranged for Infrastructure Development of Malakand Region Project. The rehabilitation of Mingora - Fatehpur section of N-95 will be carried out under the said Saudi Fund.

114. (Def.) ***Mr. Ahmed Hassan :** (Notice received on 20-06-2014 at 2:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to refer to the Senate starred question No.3, replied on 13th May, 2014 and state:

- (a) *the exact location where the Malakand Tunnel is being constructed / built;*
- (b) *the reasons for huge gap between the date of approval of the project and date of commencement of work on the same; and*
- (c) *the increase in the cost of the said project likely to be caused by the said gap / delay?*

Minister for Communications: (a) As per the feasibility study the proposed south portal of the Malakand Tunnel is located near Jabban Hydropower, whereas the north portal is located in Pirano Kalay before Batkhela (**Location Map is annexed**).

(b) PC-1 of the project based on preliminary design was approved by ECNEC on May 26, 2011. However, the project could not materialize due to non-availability of funds. Now a Loan Agreement has been signed on 5th December, 2012 between Economic Affairs Division and EXIM Bank of Korea (Govt. Agency for the EDCF) for US \$ 78 MILION. The project is in advanced stage of procurement for detailed design. Work on the project is expected to commence in June 2015.

(c) Increase in cost of the project will be determined after detailed designing of the project.

115. (Def.) ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi**: (Notice received on 20-06-2014 at 2:50 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the criteria prescribed for registration of private courier companies in the country; and*
- (b) *the names and addresses of the said companies presently registered in the country?*

Minister for Communications: (a) At present, private courier services are operating in the country without any regulatory framework, hence no criteria exist to register them with Ministry of Communications. However, these companies register themselves with SECP against criteria set by SECP.

(b) In absence of any regulatory mechanism, no courier company has been registered with the Ministry of Communications.

18. (Def.) ***Nawabzada Saifullah Magsi** : (Notice received on 23-06-2014 at 10:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of property of the Pakistan Post presently rented out in the country indicating also the location and measurement of property and rent being charged, per month, in each case; and*
- (b) *the details of rent agreements made in respect of the said property and the names of individuals / companies with whom the same have been made?*

Minister for Communications: (a) Details of property are attached [**Annex-A**].

(b) Details attached in **Annex-A**

(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

119. (Def.) ***Nawabzada Saifullah Magsi** : (Notice received on 25-06-2014 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of construction companies which have been fined and blacklisted by the Ministry of Communications or National Highway Authority (NHA) during the last three years;*
- (b) *whether the names of the said companies have been communicated to the Pakistan Engineering Council; and*
- (c) *whether any of those companies has been awarded any contract by the Ministry of Communications or National Highway Authority (NHA) after imposition of ban / blacklisting, if so, the names of such companies and the name of authority which approved the award of contract in each case?*

Minister for Communications: (a) No construction company has been blacklisted by the National Highway Authority during last three years.

(b) - Nil -

(c) -Nil -

123. (Def.) ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 30-06-2014 at 10:45 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the date on which the project of construction of road from Taxila to Haripur via Khanpur was approved;*
- (b) *the present status of the said project; and*
- (c) *whether it is a fact that work has not been started on that project so far, if so, its reasons and the time by which the same will be started and completed?*

Minister for Communications: (a) The project is unapproved.

(b) Due to the construction of proposed China-Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC) Raikot - Islamabad section which is a better alternative, the scheme is currently not under consideration.

(c) The road between Taxila and Haripur is being maintained through Periodic Maintenance of NHA through its own resources. NHA intends to improve the road to 7.3 meter

wide asphaltic carriageway. For this purpose, Periodic Maintenance contracts amounting to Rs.480.366 million have been awarded to various contractors. The work on the maintenance activities is expected to start in July, 2014 with the implementation period of 06 months.

124. (Def.) ***Mr. Muhammad Idrees Khan Safi:** (Notice received on 30-06-2014 at 10:50 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names, present age, educational qualifications and expertise in the relevant field of the retired officers presently working in Fatima Jinnah Women University, NUST and other universities in the country; and*
- (b) *the procedure adopted for appointment of the said persons?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: (a) The names, present age, educational qualification and expertise in the relevant field of the retired officers presently working in Fatima Jinnah Women University and National University of Science and Technology (NUST) is attached at **ANNEX-A**, and consolidated list of other universities of the country is attached at **ANNEX-B**.

(b) The procedure adopted by the Fatima Jinnah Women University and NUST is attached at **ANNEX-C**.

(Annexures have been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

125. (Def.) ***Mr. Muhammad Idrees Khan Safi:** (Notice received on 30-06-2014 at 10:50 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state the names of universities in the country the posts of heads / VCs of which are lying vacant at present indicating also the date of occurrence of vacancy and reasons for not filling the same so far in each case?

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: There are 3 universities in the country where the posts of heads/VCs are lying vacant at present along with the date of occurrence of vacancy and current status is given below:

KOHAT UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KOHAT

The post of Vice Chancellor is vacant since 15-10-2014. The appointment of acting Vice Chancellor is process at Higher Education Department (HED), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE UNIVERSITY, FAISALABAD

The post of Vice Chancellor is vacant since 25-10-2014. Prof. Dr. M. Zuber Dean Faculty of Science and Technology is looking after affairs of the Vice

Chancellor and the process of appointment of Vice Chancellor is in process at Governor's Office, Government of Punjab.

UNIVERSITY OF FATA

Appointment of former vice chancellor has been withdrawn. The appointment of new Vice Chancellor is in process at Directorate of Education FATA.

126. (Def.) ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 01-07-2014 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to construct road from Hassan Abdal to Rai Kot, if so, the details thereof?

Minister for Communications: Yes, the Government of Pakistan is considering construction of a highway from Hassanabdal to Raikot. The detail is given as under:—

Asian Development Bank: The 4-Lane, 60 Km long Expressway E-35 connecting Hassanabdal with Havelian is being processed by NHA for award of works under financial arrangements of Asian Development Bank.

China - Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC): Govt. of Pakistan in collaboration with Govt. of China has agreed to undertake feasibility study, detail design and construction of 487 Km long highway connecting Islamabad with Raikot under China - Pakistan Economic Corridor program. Brief description is as follows:—

Raikot - Thakot section will be 280 Km in length and constructed as 2-Lane highway along a new alignment.

Thakot - Shinkiari section will be 74 Km in length wherein existing 2-Lane KKH will be upgraded and improved.

Shinkiari - Mansehra - Abbottabad section will be 50 Km long and constructed as 4-Lane Expressway.

Abbottabad - Havelian section will be 11 Km in length and constructed as 4-Lane Motorway with 6-Lane structures.

From **Havelian to Shah Maqsood Interchange**, the proposed alignment of CPEC will overlap with alignment of E-35. This section will be 15 Km long and undertaken with ADB assistance as 4-Lane Motorway with 6-Lane structures.

Shah Maqsood Interchange - Islamabad section will be 50 Km long and constructed along a new alignment as 14-Lane Motorway with 6-Lane structures.

127. (Def.) *Mr. Muhammad Idrees Khan Safi: (Notice received on 01-07-2014 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of applicants / students who were not granted admission in the colleges and universities under the administrative control of the Federal Government due to limited / insufficient capacity during the last two years with gender-wise and institution-wise break-up; and*
- (b) *the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for enhancing the capacity of the said colleges and universities in order to accommodate more students?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: (a)

- (i) **Higher Education Commission (HEC).**

A consolidated list containing the number of applicants / students who were not granted admission in the universities under the administrative control of the Federal Government due to limited / insufficient capacity during the last two years with gender-wise and institution-wise break-up is attached **ANNEX-I**

- (ii) **Capital Administration and Development Division.**

Gender-wise and Institution-wise detail of applicants who could not get admission in the respective colleges due to limited capacity of the institutions during the last two years is placed at Annex-A. It is to mention that most of the applicants applied in more than one college. Students who could not get admission in one college due to limited capacity / high merit are admitted in another college with low merit. Thus most of the students as mentioned at Annex-A have been accommodated in other colleges.

- (b) (i) **Higher Education Commission (HEC)**

The list of steps proposed to be taken by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) for enhancing the capacity of the said colleges and universities in order to accommodate more students is attached at (**ANNEX-II**)

- (ii) **Capital Administration and Development Division**

Federal Directorate of Education, Islamabad has planned to uplift the existing colleges to enhance capacity by providing facilities like new classrooms, furniture, equipment and other infrastructure. 02 new colleges for Girls have recently been established in sector 1-8/3 and 1-14/3. The civil work of 02 colleges

(01 boys + 01 girls) located in Kothatial and Sihala is about to be completed. Establishment of new colleges and uplifting of the existing colleges will enhance their in take capacity.

130. (Def.) ***Syed Muzafar Hussain Shah :** (Notice received on 02-07-2014 at 11:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that the road connecting Mirpur Khas to Umerkot in the Province of Sindh has been handed over to the National Highway Authority, if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to convert that road into dual carriage way; and*
- (b) *the amount allocated for repair and maintenance of the said road during the current financial year?*

Minister for Communications: (a) It is apprised that the road section between Mirpurkhas and Umarmkot is a part of Hyderabad — Khokrapar Highway, N-120 (222 km). Currently, there is no proposal under consideration for dualization of Mirpurkhas -Umarmkot Section (82 km) however; this section is being maintained through NHA's Road Maintenance Account. The Hyderabad -Mirpurkhas Section (68 km) has already been dualized by Government of Sindh through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) basis. The right-of-way of the road section from Umarmkot to Khokrapar (72 km) has not been transferred to NHA for operations and maintenance.

(b) NHA allocated an amount of Rs. 19.45 million for routine maintenance of Hyderabad to Mirpurkhas (km 00 - km 88) section of National Highway N-120 under Annual Maintenance Plan 2013-14. The details are:

Location	Length (km)	Amount (Rs.)
00 - 15	15	3,299,218
15 - 30	15	3,579,121
30 - 50	20	4,517,780
50 - 70	20	3,915,083
70 - 88	18	4,135,884
TOTAL:	88	19,447,086

133. (Def.) ***Mrs. Sehar Kamran :** (Notice received on 04-07-2014 at 10:20 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the details of emergency services available on motorways in the country; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to provide helicopter or air ambulance service on the said motorways, if so, the progress made in this regard so far?*

Minister for Communications: (a) Following emergency services are available round the clock on motorways for safety and convenience of commuters.

- (a) Trauma Centers
- (b) Emergency Call System
- (c) Help Line No. 130
- (d) Rescue & Recovery Services
- (e) Mobile Workshops
- (f) Firefighting
- (g) Patrolling on Motorways
- (h) Ambulance Service

(b) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to provide helicopter or air ambulance service on motorways.

135. (Def.) ***Mr. Amar Jeet :** (Notice received on 07-07-2014 at 1:50 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether the educational certificates and degrees of the persons working in Allama Iqbal Open and Quaid-e-Azam Universities have been got verified, if so, the details of the certificates and degrees of the Vice Chancellors, Professors and Lecturers of both the Universities which have been got verified; and*
- (b) *the names of the persons working in the said universities whose certificates / degrees have been got verified from foreign educational institutions / universities?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: (a) Educational Certificates and Degrees of persons working in both universities are under the process of verification. However, the current status of the degree verification of both universities is given below:-

Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad (AIU):

Total Employees:	396
Total Documents:	1674
Verified so far:	600
Awaited:	487
Under Process:	587

The detail of the Educational Certificates and Degrees of the persons working in AIOU is attached at **ANNEX-I**.

Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad (QAU):

The Educational Certificate and degrees of teaching staff as well as Vice-Chancellor has not yet been verified. However, the detailed list showing status of degree verification of QAU employees is attached at **ANNEX-II**.

(b) Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad (AIOU):

The Following academic staff have submitted their foreign degrees duly verified from Higher Education Commission;

1. Prof. Dr. Nowshad Khan, Dean/Registrar.
2. Dr. Syed Hassan Raza, Associate Professor.
3. Dr. Iqbal Shah, Assistant Professor.

Response from remaining 14 employees holding foreign degrees is still awaited.

Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad (QAU):

The detail of persons working in QAU having degrees/certificates from foreign Institutions/Universities is given at **ANNEX-II**.

(Annexures have been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

137. (Def.) ***Mr. Amar Jeet :** (Notice received on 10-07-2014 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of persons appointed in the Ministry of Federal Education and professional Training its attached departments, subordinate offices and autonomous and semi autonomous bodies and boards etc. during the last five years with grade wise and province wise break up; and*

- (b) *the names, grades and place of domicile of the persons belonging to minorities presently working in the said Ministry, departments, offices and boards etc. in BPS-5 and above?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman:

(a) (i) **Main Ministry**

This Ministry was established *vide* Cabinet Division's Notification dated 29th July, 2011. As per policy all recommended posts in the newly created Ministries / Divisions have to be filled in only from the employees of the devolved Ministries / Division through MS Wing, Establishment Division. However, no appointment has been made in the Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training (Main) since its creation.

Project Monitoring & Evaluation Cell.

09 project staff were employed (Officers BS-17 and above 03, officials BS-01 to BS-16 are 06) in the project titled "Project Monitoring and Evaluation Cell" approved by the DDWP in its meeting held on 06-04-2012 at a total cost of Rs.20.97 million for a period of 36 months. Detail of employees are attached (Annex- I)

(ii) **National Vocational and Technical Training Commission.**

There are 84 employees in NAVTTC who have been appointed on Contract/ Contingent Paid basis during the last 05 years as per list attached. (Annex-II).

(iii) **National Education Foundation (NEF)**

National Education Foundation (NEF) was established in late 1994, through Cabinet Resolution and become operational in 1996. Being autonomous organization governed through Presidential Ordinance, 2002 working under the administrative control of Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training to promote basic education through Public Private Partnership in FATA, Gilgit Baltistan, AJK & ICT.

In Financial year 2009 – 10 Mr. Muhammad Rizwan, Assistant (BS-14) belong to Islamabad was appointed with the approval of then Managing Director NEF Mr. Kamran Zafar. The services of the official were regularized in inaugural meeting of Board of Governors of NEF held on December 15, 2011. Followed by regularization by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Regularization of Contract Employees meeting of 27th Feb. 2013.

During Financial year 2010 – 11 Mr. Azeem Akram LDC (BS-05) from Lahore was initially appointed for period of one year against vacant post in NEF with the approval of former Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Professional Training (renamed Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training) / Managing Director, National Education Foundation, Islamabad. The services of official were also approved by the Board of Governors of National Education Foundation in its 15th BoG meeting held on April 24th, 2012, followed by

regularization by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Regularization of Contract Employees meeting of 27th Feb. 2013.

During Financial year 2011 – 12 due to transfer of regular incumbent, Director (Finance & Planning) to Ministry of Privatization as Deputy Secretary (BS-19) on deputation for period of 03 years. Lt. Col. Umar Hayat Luk belong to Sargodha was appointed by the competent authority as Director (Finance & Planning NEF) initially for period of one year to look after the matters of the Foundation. The services of officer in BS 19 as Director (Finance & Planning) were also approved by Board of Governors in its 15th BoG , meeting held on 24th April, 2012. However, the officer has resigned from his services on January, 2012,

In the 15 BoG meeting held on 24th April, 2012 it was decided that vacant position of NEF will be advertised and selection will be made as per laid down procedure and final approval of BoG. Accordingly, vacant positions of NEF was advertised in leading newspapers to select the suitable candidates against vacant post of Director (Finance & Planning) BS-19 and Assistant Director (Finance & Planning) BS-17 due to deputation of both these regular officers on deputation for period of 03 years to Ministry of Privatization and P&D Division, Government of Punjab. In accordance with 02 appointments were made namely;

- (1) Lt. Col. Sohail Mehmood Pasha (Rtd) from Sargodha was appointed as Director (Finance & Planning BS-19 on March 19, 2013 in NEF against the vacant post of Director (F&P) for a period of one year with the approval of then Federal Minister, of Education and Training / Chairman BoG NEF due to transfer of regular incumbent on deputation to Ministry of Privatization as Deputy Secretary for period of 03 years. The contract period of Lt. Col. Sohail Mehmood Pasha (Rtd), was expired on March 19, 2014. The regular incumbent has taken charge of her post as Director (Finance & Planning) on April 02, 2014 on repatriation to NEF.
- (2) Mr. Ali Raza from District Jhang was appointed as Assistant Director (Finance & Planning) BS-17) on March .19, 2013 in NEF against the vacant post of Assistant Director (F&P) for a period of one year with the approval of then Federal Minister of Education & Training / Chairman BoG NEF due to transfer of regular incumbent on deputation as Chief Capacity Building to Planning and Development Division Government of Punjab, Lahore for period of 03 years. The contract of Mr.Ali Raza, Assistant Director (Finance & Planning) expired on March 19, 2014 and no extention was granted.
- (iv) **Basic Education Community Schools (BECS)**

The information regarding number of persons appointed in Basic Education Community Schools (BECS) Project *w.e.f.* July, 2009 to date is attached at Annex-III.

- (v) **National Commission for Human Development (NCHD).**

Annex-IV

(vi) **Higher Education Commission (HEC)**

A total of one hundred seventy four (174) persons have been appointed in the Higher Education Commission (HEC) during last five years. Grade-wise breakup is attached at Annexure-V

(vii) **Federal Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education (FBISE)**

Total of 74 employees have been appointed in Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE), H-8/4, Islamabad during the last five years on regular basis. Whereas at present six employees are working on contract / daily wages basis. List is placed at Annex VI.

(viii) **Academy of Educational Planning & Management (AEPAM).**

(xiii) **Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO, (PNCU)**

Nil

(xiv) **National Education Assessment System (NEAS)**

Nil

(b) (i) **Main Ministry**

Nil

(ii) **National Vocational and Technical Training Commission.**

In NAVTTC there is only one employee belonging to minority, named Ms. Eviza Lawrence, Event Facilitator/Coordinator (BS-17), having domicile of Quetta Balochistan.

(iii) **National Education Foundation (NEF)**

There is only one employee working on part time in National Education Foundation belongs to minority. The requisite information regarding the concerned official is as under:-

Name	Ishaq Masih
Designation	Sweeper
BPS	(Nil) part time not on regular strength of NEF.
Domicile	Punjab (Sialkot).

(iv) **Basic Education Community Schools (BECS).**

Information may be treated as Nil. At present no officer / official belonging to minorities in BPS-5 and above is working in Basic Education Community Schools (BECS), Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training.

(v) **National Commission for Human Development (NCHD).**

(Annex-VII).

(vi) **Higher Education Commission (HEC)**

The names, gender and place of domicile of the persons belonging to minorities, presently working HEC, in BPS-5 and above is attached at Annex-VIII.

(vii) **Federal Board of Intermediate & Secondary Education (FBISE)**

The desired list is placed at Annex-IX.

(viii) **Academy of Educational Planning and Management (AEPAM)**

Mr. Jamshed Riaz (BS-11) Punjab
Caretaker
AEPAM Hostel.

(ix) **National Training Bureau (NTB).**

Name	Date of Appointment	Domicile
Mr. Jacob Inayat Instructor (BS-14)	1-9-1987	Punjab

(x) **National Talent Pool (NTP)**

Nil

(xi) **Pakistan Manpower Institute (PMI)**

Nil

(xii) **National Internship Program (NIP)**

Mr. Shakeel Francis, Assistant (BPS-14), Punjab Domicile belong to Minorities was initially appointed in NIP office and later on he went on deputation to M/o Housing and Works and absorbed in that Ministry.

(xiii) **Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO, (PNCU)**

Nil

(xiv) **National Education Assessment System (NEAS)**

Nil

(Annexures have been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

139. (Def.) ***Haji Ghulam Ali :** (Notice received on 05-08-2014 at 1:30 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the date on which last auction was held for Toll Tax Plazas on Motorways in the country;*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that toll tax on the said motorways has recently been increased by 50%, if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- (c) *whether that increase was included in the terms and conditions of the said auction?*

Minister for Communications: (a) M/s FWO was assigned the task of toll operations and provision of allied services on Islamabad-Lahore Motorway (M-2) from December 1997, on Pindi Bhattian — Faisalabad Motorway (M-3) from September 2003 and on Islamabad — Peshawar Motorway (M-1) from 16th June 2007 under negotiated service-based operation and management contract. The contract is still operative.

(b) The previous enhancement was carried out in September 2011, now toll rates have been revised after 3 years *w.e.f* 7th July 2014 by NHA Executive Board in its 236th meeting held on Jun. 17, 2014. The reasons of increase are:

- (i) The inflation rate in Pakistan is increasing with every passing year. To cope with increased maintenance cost the toll rates on Motorways are to be, revised progressively.
- (ii) The maintenance of around 600km Motorway requires attractive toll rates for an investor to invest and recover with profit if the maintenance of motorways is undertaken on BOT/PPP basis.
- (iii) To ensure that services to commuters on Motorways are continuously provided in a most appropriate manner the toll rates being key for investor to recover his investment have to be competitive.

An Inter-Regional comparison with Bangladesh and India is worked out at **Annexure-A & Annexure-B** respectively.

(c) The O&M sharing with FWO under the contract is independent of any change in toll rates. No matter what the increase in Toll Rates the amount of O&M shall remain fixed as the same is expressed in figures and not percentage.

140. (Def.) ***Mr. Osman Saifullah Khan :** (Notice received on 26-08-2014 at 09:00 am)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state the policy / criteria laid down for sanctioning / construction of interchanges on the motorways in the country?

Minister for Communications: During planning stage of the project, requirement for an interchange is based upon traffic analysis and economic benefits. Government's policies for industrial development along the corridor are also taken in to consideration.

Policy has been approved in the 240th Meeting of the NHA Executive Board held on 11th November, 2014.

143. (Def.) ***Mr. Abdul Nabi Bangash:** (Notice received on 08-09-2014 at 12:30 pm)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for up-gradation of the road from Tarnol to Kohat and onward upto Thall, District Hangu, if so, its details?

Minister for Communications: Yes, there is proposal under consideration for up-gradation of existing road from Tarnol to Jand (92 km) in the NHA's five years plan.

It is apprised that Tarnol - Kohat road is national highway N-80, which starts from Tarnol and terminates at Kohat having a total length of 146 km. The section onwards from Kohat upto Thal is a provincial road and therefore does not fall in the purview of the NHA. Therefore no proposal is under consideration for this section.

It is further apprised that Turnol-Jand project also being pursued to be taken up on BOT basis, which will include dualization of Turnol-Fateh Jang and up gradation of Fateh Jang-Jund section. Currently in house Feasibility Study is under way.

144. (Def.) ***Mr. Abdul Nabi Bangash:** (Notice received on 08-09-2014 at 12:30 pm)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to construct road from Gawadar to China under the Pak-China Economic Corridor programme, if so, the details of its proposed design and estimated cost with section-wise break-up?

Minister for Communications: Yes, there is a proposal for connecting Khunjrab with Gawadar Port, under the umbrella of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The Connection is envisaged to be completed as short term and long-term solution, in various phases.

(b) The Search Committee has been constituted for three Public Sector Universities and regional / provincial quota is not applicable on it. Moreover, it is the discretion of the President of Pakistan being Chancellor of these universities. to constitute Search Committee.

146. (Def.) ***Mr. Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai Advocate** : (Notice received on 12-09-2014 at 12:10 pm)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the amount allocated in budget 2013-14 and 2014-15 for recurring and development expenditures of the public sector universities in the country; and*
- (b) *the amount allocated in the said budgets for the said expenditures, separately, of the public sector universities in Balochistan?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: (a) The Federal Government has allocated an amount of **Rs.57.240 billion** for FY 2013-14 and **Rs. 63.069 billion** for the FY 2014-15 in terms of recurring and development expenditures for all public sector universities in the country .This amount is the highest ever allocated to Higher Education Commission. The summary of allocation to Provincial Universities, Universities administered by Federal Government, Gilgit Baltistan, AJK and HEC National Programs is given below:

	Allocation for FY 2013-14 (Billion Rupees)		Allocation for FY 2014-15 (Billion Rupees)	
	Recurring	Development	Recurring	Development
Federal, AJK, GB Universities	6.012	2.828	6.688	2.586
Provincial Universities	26.423	10.393	29.072	11.932
HEC National Programs	6.565	5.019	7.240	5.551
Total	39.000	18.240	43.000	20.069
Grand Total	57.240		63.069	

The university wise details of recurring and development grants are attached at Annex-I and Annex-II respectively.

(b) The annual allocation to public sector universities in Balochistan for their recurring and development expenditures is depicted in the below table.

Allocation for FY 2013-14 (Billion Rupees)		Allocation for FY 2014-15 (Billion Rupees)	
Recurring	Development	Recurring	Development
1.441	1.074	1.641	1.677
2.515		3.318	

Additionally, an amount of Rs.517.753 million as recurring grant and 160.000 million as development grant has been provided to the public sector universities in Balochistan during FY 2013-14. The summary of additional grants is given below:

Head	Allocation for FY 2013-14 (Million Rupees)	
	Recurring	Development
Supplementary Grant	387.610	
Additional Grants	101.00	
Tenure Track Funds	29.143	
Master Leading to PhD Program	-	160.00
Total	517.753	160.00
Grand Total	677.753	

The university wise details of recurring and development grants (including additional/supplementary grants) for universities in Balochistan are attached separately at Annex-III and Annex-IV respectively.

(Annexures have been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

4. ***Mr. Muhammad Daud Khan Achakzai Advocate :** (Notice received on 31-10-2014 at 09:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that scholarships for talented students of Balochistan for higher education in local and foreign educational institutions have been announced recently;*
- (b) *the details of students belonging to Balochistan province who have been awarded the said scholarships during the years 2013 and 2014; and*
- (c) *the criteria adopted for awarding those scholarships?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: (a) Yes, it is true. Higher Education Commission advertised foreign and indigenous scholarships specifically for Balochistan which appeared in print media on September 15, 2013 for intake under Aghaz Haqooq Balochistan package, for academic session Spring-Fall 2014.

(b) Under said programme, 214 scholarships have been awarded (82 scholars for overseas scholarships and 132 scholars for indigenous scholarship). Details of scholars are at Annexure A & B.

(c) Eligibility Criteria as approved by ECNEC: Aghaz – Haqooq Balochistan

(a) Applicant must possess Domicile/Local from Balochistan Province.

(b) Candidate must have completed sixteen years of education (Bachelor/Masters).

(c) A minimum of 45% marks will be allowed while No 3rd Division is acceptable.

(d) Candidates must have secured at least valid 50 Marks (Accumulative Test Score) in Local GAT (general) test conducted in Pakistan.

(e) At least two Certificates/Degrees must have been studied in and obtained from HEC recognized Universities/DAIs located in Balochistan province.

(f) Maximum Age Limit

- o 40 years for in Service Govt. R&D organizations employee, Faculty college/university.

- o 35 years for those who have MS/MPhil (18) year degree and applying for PhD programme.

- o 30 years for those who have MA/MSc/ Bachelor (16) year degree and applying for MS/MPhil leading to PhD programme.

5. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 31-10-2014 at 10:30 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state the names of projects launched by the National Highway Authority in the country during the last five years with province-wise break up indicating also the present status of each project and the time by which work will be completed on the projects which have not been completed so far?

Minister for Communications: During the last five years 29 Development projects were launched in different provinces with local finance. Province-wise breakup of these projects is as under:-

Region	Projects	Annex
i. Punjab	14	A
ii. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	04	B
iii. Balochistan	01	C
iv. Sindh	10	D
Total	29	

Foreign Funded Projects. During the last five years, 29 projects were launched in different provinces with the financial assistance of foreign donor agencies, breakup of these projects is as under:-

Region Agency	Projects	Annex
i. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)		
Azad Jammu & Kashmir	02	E
ii. Asian Development Bank		
Balochistan	01	F
Sindh	01	
Punjab	01	
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	01	
iii. Islamic Development Bank JICA/EXIM Bank of China		
Punjab	01	
Sindh	01	G

Gilgit-Baltistan 02

iv. **Flood Emergency
Rehabilitation Projects**

Punjab 01 H

Sindh 10

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 06

Azad Jammu & Kashrnir 02

Total 29

(Annexures have been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

6. ***Mr. Ahmed Hassan:** (Notice received on 31-10-2014 at 11:45 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

(a) *the amount allocated for Lowari Tunnel project in budget 2014-15; and*

(b) *the time by which the said project will be completed?*

Minister for Communications: (a) The allocated amount for Lowari Tunnel in PSDP 2014-15 is Rs.2000 Million.

(b) The Lowari Tunnel Project is expected to be completed in three (03) years and eight (08) months with following funds requirements:

Year	Funds Requirements (Rs. in Millions)
2014-15	5000
2015-16	5000
2016-17	4880
2017-18	3300
Total	18,182

The completion of project in above mentioned time will only be achieved subject to availability of funds.

7. ***Nawabzada Saifullah Magsi:** (Notice received on 31-10-2014 at 3:10 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state the details of foreign visits undertaken by the incumbent Prime Minister of Pakistan since he took charge of his Office indicating also the names of countries visited, the names and designations etc. of the members of entourage, duration, expenditures incurred and objectives achieved in each case?

Minister for Foreign Affairs: The details of the foreign visits made by the present Prime Minister are given as follows:-

8. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 05-11-2014 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to handover the control of Chapar road from Haripur to Darband and Thakot, District Mansehra, to the National Highway Authority, if so, when?

Minister for Communications: There is no proposal under consideration of National Highway Authority to take over or federalize the existing KPK provincial Chappar Road from Haripur to Darband and Thakot, District Mansehra.

9. ***Begum Najma Hameed:** (Notice received on 05-11-2014 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state the names of organizations / departments under the administrative control of the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination indicating also the salient achievements of each of them during the last five years?

Mrs. Saira Afzal Tarar : Names and salient achievements of all attached departments/ subordinate offices/autonomous bodies/entities working under administrative control of M/o NHS,R&C:

10. ***Mr. Ahmed Hassan:** (Notice received on 05-11-2014 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the road (N-45) at Katkala between Chakdara and Talash, District Dir, has been scratched, if so, the purpose / reasons for scratching the same and the date on which it was scratched?

Minister for Communications: Yes, the groves were cut in existing road at Katkala (N-45) for better boding with newly laid Asphalt Wearing Course, which has been carried out in the month of December, 2014.

11. ***Mr. Ahmed Hassan:** (Notice received on 05-11-2014 at 09:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of Vocational Training Institutes established by the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development in the country with province-wise break-up; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to improve the performance of those institutes?*

Pir Syed Sadaruddin Shah Rashidi : (a) Overseas Pakistanis Foundation and Workers Welfare Fund working under the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development have established Vocational Training Institutes as under:

Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF)

- 1. Vocational Training Centre, Peshawar

Workers Welfare Fund (WWF)

- 1. Punjab=4 (Jhang-2, Layyah-1, Faisalabad-1)
- 2. Khyberpakhtunkhwa=1 (Shinkhari)

(b) Steps are being taken to affiliate the institutions with international organizations such as M/s City & Guilds, a UK based Organization so that their certificates/diplomas are recognized worldwide. Besides, international marketable trades are being introduced like Shuttering Carpenters, Masons, Steel Fixers etc.

12. ***Mrs. Sehar Kamran:** (Notice received on 05-11-2014 at 11:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of ongoing health projects being funded by foreign countries, international donors and financial institutions; and*
- (b) *the details of financial assistance provided by the said countries, donors and institutions for those projects during the present regime and the details of its utilization with province-wise break-up?*

Mrs. Saira Afzal Tarar : (a & b) The following ongoing projects are being funded by foreign countries, international donors and financial institutions:

13. ***Mr. Saeed Ghani:** (Notice received on 05-11-2014 at 11:10 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs working on contract and daily wages basis who were recommended for regularization of their services by the Sub-Committee of the Cabinet on regularization of contract / daily wages employees during the last Government of Pakistan Peoples Party; and*
- (b) *whether it is a fact that the then Prime Minister granted approval of regularization of services of such employees, if so, the present status of employment and payment of salaries and allowances to the said employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: (a) The number of contingent paid employees who were recommended for regularization by the Cabinet's Sub-Committee during the last government's tenure is 117.

(b) It is a fact that on 12 March, 2013, the then Prime Minister granted approval for regularization of services of these employees. Subsequently, on 13 March 2013, the Cabinet Sub-Committee for regularization of contingent paid staff regularized the above-mentioned 117 persons, subject to fulfillment of recruitment criterion and availability of seats. Accordingly, all the contingent paid employees were issued conditional Offer Letters with the condition to attest their educational documents from IBBC or HEC, medical fitness from government authorized hospitals and IB clearness. Before their services could be regularized, however, some of the Ministry's/regular staff went to court over the decision. Subsequently, their regularization was withheld, the matter being subjudice. Currently, eighty-five of the original 117 such staff are working in the Ministry as contingent paid staff. They are currently being paid a fixed monthly salary of Rs. 10,000/-. Ministry has recently requested Finance Division for allocation of additional funds and approval for granting monthly salary of Rs. 12,000/-. Approval is awaited from Finance Division.

14. ***Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 05-11-2014 at 2:30 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to establish state-of-the art universities in rural areas of the country?

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman : Higher Education Commission (HEC) has been working on proposal of establishing university/university campus in each district of the country. The current status of the existing university/university campus in the each district is attached at **Annexure-I.**

This year HEC has proposed the following Higher Education Facility for the less developed areas of the country:

SN	Project Name	Estimated Cost
1.	Establishment of University of FATA	4700.000
2.	Establishment of COMSATS Institute of Information Technology at Jaffarabad	853.490
3.	Establishment of Sub Campus of Hazara University at Oghi	500.00
4.	Establishment of University at Sibi	1500.000
5.	Establishment of University of Swat	999.809
6.	Expansion of Academic Programs at Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University Lyari, Karachi	650.000
7.	Strengthening of the University of Poonch Rawalakot	871.935

(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

15. ***Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq:** (Notice received on 06-11-2014 at 10:30 a.m.)
Will the Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government to upgrade the existing sports infrastructure in the country upto the international standards / level; and*
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to make those sports federations accountable which fail to produce players of international standards despite obtaining huge funds from the Government every year?*

Mr. Riaz Hussain Pirzada : (a) After the devolution of the subject of sports to the Provinces in pursuance of 18th Constitutional Amendment, Provincial Governments are exclusively responsible for the creation / up-gradation of sports infrastructure in their respective territories. PSB can now undertake development of sports facilities in the premises of Pakistan Sports Complex, Islamabad and in its Coaching Centers located at four (04) Provincial headquarter.

(b) National Sports Federations are elected bodies exclusively responsible for the development of their respective games in Pakistan. At present 39 Federations are affiliated with Pakistan Sports Board.

Pakistan Sports Board provides annual grants to the federations to meet their day to day requirements including office expenses, payment of annual subscription / affiliation fees to their international / regional organizations and holding of national championships every year. Pakistan

Sports Board also provides special grants to the federations for participation in international events abroad and at home. Government grants do not fully cover the financial requirements of the federations and they must use their own resources to accomplish their promotional activities.

As regards, accountability of the federations for the financial grants, the following measures have been taken:—

- (i) The federations are categorized on the basis of their performance and grants are allocated in order of their categories. The categorization is periodically reviewed in the light of the performance of the federations.
- (ii) After the close of each financial year, the federations are required to furnish audited statements of accounts which are examined by Pakistan Sports Board to check the genuine utilization of government grants.
- (iii) Federations are required to submit reports on their participation in international events. These reports are evaluated and necessary instructions are issued to the concerned federations for improvement in their performances.

16. ***Mrs. Sehar Kamran:** (Notice received on 06-11-2014 at 12:45 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *the literacy rate in the country with province-wise break-up;*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to increase the said rate in the country; and*
- (c) *the details of assistance being provided by the Federal Government to the provincial governments to increase the literacy rate in each province?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman : (a) According to the latest Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM) Survey 2010-11, the literacy rate for the population (10 years and above) is 58 percent during 2010-11, as compared to 57 percent in 2008-09. Literacy remains much higher in urban areas than in rural areas and much higher for men than for women. Province wise data suggest that Punjab leads with 60 percent literacy followed by Sindh with 59 percent, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with 50 percent and Balochistan with 41 percent.

(b) The following steps have been taken by National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) to improve literacy rate:

- (i) Established 21,639 feeder schools to provide schooling for the un-served population.
- (ii) Provision of 13,606 additional teachers in existing government schools, where the enhanced enrollment adversely affected the teacher student ration.

- (iii) NCHD in collaboration with different district education departments re-opened 3300 schools through provision of additional teachers (feeder teacher); these schools were closed due to non-availability of teachers.

(c) Provincial/area governments are working at their own to enhance the literacy rate in their respective areas/jurisdictions. However, NCHD and BECS, attached departments of Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training are playing a pivotal role in improving the literacy rate in the country. Moreover Provincial Literacy Departments are also contributing towards improving the literacy rates. UNICEF and UNESCO in collaboration with this Ministry are also endeavoring in this direction. Federal Government brings together all the provinces and area governments on the forum of Inter Provincial Education Ministerial Conference (IPEMC) where good practices are shared which helps the cause of education and literacy.

Academy of Educational Planning and Management (AEPAM) under the control of Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training also maintains the educational database (NEMIS) and facilitates provinces and area governments in planning by providing data and also by training of the teachers and education managers.

17. ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 07-11-2014 at 10:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to increase the allocation of funds for Lowari Tunnel Project as per its requirements?

Minister for Communications : National Highway Authority (NHA) has requested for Rs.6,000 million in financial year 2014-15. However, Rs.2,000 million has been allocated by the Planning Commission in PSDP 2014-15 for the project.

18. ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 07-11-2014 at 10:15 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether there is any project in progress to impart technical training to the youth of Balochistan Province, if so, the number of youths presently getting training under that project; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to launch such project if the same is not in progress at present, if so, when?*

Mr. Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman: (a) NAVTTC:

- National Vocational & Technical Training Commission under the Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training has given special attention to Balochistan to equip its youth with technical skills.

- Currently, there are total 12 ongoing projects under which technical training is being imparted to 1,028 youth of Balochistan. Moreover, 1974 trainees have been trained from Balochistan under Prime Minister Youth Program.

(b) (1) **NAVTTTC:**

Proposal was initiated by NAVTTTC to provide quality training for the youth of Balochistan in reputed institutes of other provinces by providing special package / incentives. The proposal was approved by NAVTTTC Board of Members in its meeting held in May, 2014

(2) **NTB:**

- A project titled “**Training of 5750 youth of Balochistan under Aghaz-e-Huqooq-e-Balochistan Package**” was approved for two years at total cost of Rs.333.256 million and accordingly administrative approval issued on 11-04-2014. The Ministry took up the matter with Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform for allocation of Rs.166 million for the financial year, 2014-15; however, no funds have been allocated. The pursuance of the project implementation is under way with the concerned quarters.
- The proposal is also under consideration for offering the training to Instructional Staff of Balochistan Province under “**Training of Trainers**” (TOT) Programme at National Bureau.

19. ***Syeda Sughra Imam:** (Notice received on 10-11-2014 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to state:

- whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to hire a lobbyist in Washington DC, if so, the reasons thereof;*
- the details of lobbyist firm / firms proposed to be hired and the proposed terms and conditions for their hiring;*
- whether the Government of Pakistan engaged lobbyists in Washington DC between 2000-2013, if so, the reasons thereof; and*
- the details of lobbyist firms hired during the said period indicating also the terms and conditions of hiring in each case?*

Minister for Foreign Affairs: Following is the para-wise reply to the above mentioned questions;

- (a) Many countries use the services of lobbyist in USA because the lobbyist, in addition to other assignments, helps the Embassy keep abreast with legislative activities on the Hill. At any one time, Congress considers a number of legislations that have direct bearing on US plans for funding and other supplies, which may come up for consideration by the Senate. To keep track of the congressional actions and to

approach congressmen to present our views on legislation important to us. Pakistan Embassy also needs the services of a lobbyist.

- (b) The Mission has identified one or two firms as lobbyist but no decision has been taken so far.
- (c) The Mission had engaged lobbyists between 2003 and 2013. The reasons of hiring are given below:
 - (i) Given the complexity of conducting both diplomacy and business with the United States, most foreign countries, as well as international business houses, have appointed specialized lobbying companies in the American capital to effectively convey their message to the Administration, to Congress and other opinion makers. Pakistan too, has followed this practice over the past three decades.
 - (ii) The need for such a lobbying firm is also conducive in countering negative perception about Pakistan in the United States. This calls for the Embassy's efforts to be reinforced by the concerted and systematic support and contacts of specialists to counter the barrage of unfavorable stories against us, as well as to explain Pakistan's position on various domestic and international issues.

(d) The Mission is without lobbyists since June 2013. However, in the past, the Mission had hired the services of the following lobbyists between 2000-2013:

- (i) Hooper Hooper Owen and Gould which later became Wilson; Associates (1997-2005);
- (ii) Van Scoyoc Associates (2005-2008);
- (iii) Cassidy & Associates (2007);
- (iv) Dewey & LeBoeuf (2007- 2009) Hired as trade policy consultant;
- (v) Locke Lord Strategies (2008-2013).

The proposal received from the Mission including terms and conditions of the hiring of the lobbyists are under consideration but no final decision has so far been taken.

20. ***Col. (R) Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi:** (Notice received on 10-11-2014 at 10:40 a.m.)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of officers and officials working in the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan;*
- (b) *the names, designations and names of parent departments of the persons working on deputation basis in the said authority; and*
- (c) *the number of persons working on contract basis in that authority with cadre-wise / grade-wise break-up?*

Mrs. Saira Afzal Tarar : (a) Detail at **Annex-I.**

(b) Detail at **Annex-II.**

(c) Detail at **Annex-III.**

21. ***Mrs. Nuzhat Sadiq :** (Notice received on 10-11-2014 at 12:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state the steps being taken by the Government to ensure provision of life saving medicines at affordable prices to the poorest of the poor in the country?

Mrs. Saira Afzal Tarar : The following steps have been taken by the Federal Government to ensure provision of life saving medicines at affordable prices to the poorest of the poor in the country:

- i. Manufacturing of generic drugs is being encouraged and facilitated, as by and large the generic products are cheaper than the branded drugs. Priority and all facilitations are being given to the manufacturers of generic drugs and to make their investment fruitful in the shortest possible time. For that purpose, meetings of the various boards are being held frequently.
- ii. Priority is also being given to grant registration to new licenses/new sections to increase production of drugs which increases competition in the market which in turn results in the reduction of prices of drugs.
- iii. A policy to rationalize the prices of drugs is under consideration of the Policy Board of Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination.

22. ***Mrs. Sehar Kamran:** (Notice received on 11-11-2014 at 11:35 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names, locations, length and estimated cost of motorways proposed to be constructed in the country in near future; and*
- (b) *the amount allocated for construction of the said motorways in the budget for fiscal year 2014-15?*

Minister for Communications : (a) The names, locations and length with estimated cost of different section of **proposed** motorways to be constructed in the near future is as under:

23. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 13-11-2014 at 01:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state the details of health projects / programmes at Federal level being funded by foreign donors?

Mrs. Saira Afzal Tarar : The details of health projects / programmes at Federal level being funded by foreign donors are as under:

24. ***Syeda Sughra Imam:** (Notice received on 13-11-2013 at 4:00 p.m.)

Will the Minister for Foreign Affairs be pleased to refer to the Senate starred question No.134 replied on 23rd October, 2014 and state whether any agreements, treaties or MOUs were signed, proposed or considered during the bilateral visits to the foreign countries undertaken by the Chief Ministers of Provincial Governments since June, 2013, if so, the details thereof?

Minister for Foreign Affairs:

China:

The list of MoUs/agreement signed during the Chief Minister Punjab's visits to China, which are available with the Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing, are attached at **Annex-A**. These MOUs/Agreements related broadly to projects involving the Government of Punjab and Chinese companies as well as those involving Chinese companies and private companies from Punjab.

2. The Chief Minister, Sindh made two visits to China as indicated below:

S. No.	Dates	Purpose/Subject
1.	24—27 October, 2014	Exploring possibilities of Chinese investment in various projects related to the Thar Coal fields.
2.	26—28 August 2014	Party-to-party exchange between the Pakistan People's Party and the Communist Party of China; the Chief Minister was a part of the delegation headed by the former President, Asif Ali Zardari.

3. List of the MoUs/Agreements, signed during the Chief Minister of Sindh's visit, if any, has been requested from the provincial government of Sindh:

4. The Chief Minister, Baluchistan made two visits to China as under. No MoU/Agreement was signed during the visits of the Chief Minister of Baluchistan:

S. No.	Dates	Purpose/Subject
1.	July 2013	Part of the Prime Minister's delegation.
2.	August 2014	To attend 3rd meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor.

5. The Chief Minister, KPK did not visit China during the period.

India:

The Chief Minister of Punjab, on the invitation of Chief Minister of Indian Punjab, visited India on 12-15 December 2013. During his visit, the Chief Minister also called on Indian Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, in New Delhi. However, no treaties/agreements or MoUs were signed, proposed/ considered during the Chief Minister's visit.

Middle East

Chief Minister Punjab visited UAE on 25 November, 2013 and Qatar on 08 July 2013. Chief Minister Sindh visited Saudi Arabia on 07-09 February 2014 and on 24-27 July 2014 in private capacity. No MoU/agreement was signed or proposed during these visits.

USA

None of the Chief Ministers have paid any official visit to USA during this period.

25. ***Mrs. Rubina Khalid:** (Notice received on 14-11-2014 at 03:10 p.m.)
Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state;

(a) *whether it is a fact that PMDC has recommended for closure of Al-Razi Medical College, Peshwar, Hashmat Medical College, Gujarat and Sahiwal Medical College, Sahiwal; and*

(b) *whether any action has been taken on the said recommendations of PIMDC, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?*

Reply not received.

26. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 17-11-2014 at 09:00 a.m.)

Will the Minister for National Food Security and Research be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names of crops in which Pakistan is self sufficient; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to improve per acre yield of major crops in the country?*

Mr. Sikandar Hayat Khan Bosan : (a) Pakistan is generally self sufficient in crops like wheat, rice, sugarcane, maize, gram, mung, onion and potatoes as well as various other fruits and minor crops.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to improve per acre yield of major crops are as under:

- i. Development and promotion of new high yielding varieties as well as hybrids of major crops.
- ii. Ensured supply of farm inputs for obtaining maximum crop productivity.
- iii. Dissemination of good agricultural practices through provincial agricultural department using field visits and electronic and print media.

27. ***Mr. Muhammad Talha Mehmood:** (Notice received on 18-11-2014 at 10:05 a.m.)

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *the estimated number of unemployed persons in the country; and*
- (b) *the steps being taken by the Government to create job opportunities for the said persons in the country?*

Pir Syed Sadaruddin Shah Rashidi : (a) The issue pertaining to the unemployed persons in the country is not being dealt in the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development.

(b) As above.

28. ***Nawabzada Saifullah Magsi :** (Notice received on 18-11-2014 at 10:35 a.m.)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *the procedure laid down for determining / fixing the price of imported and locally produced medicines;*
- (b) *the ratio of profit allowed to importers and producers of medicines in the country;*
- (c) *the names of life-saving drugs and their manufacturers the price of which were increased during the last one year indicating also the reasons for increase in each case; and*
- (d) *whether it is a fact that the prices of medicines in Pakistan are higher than those in the neighbouring countries, if so, the reasons thereof?*

Mrs. Saira Afzal Tarar : (a) Prices of medicines are fixed by the Federal Government under section 12 of the Drugs Act, 1976 (XXXI of 1976), read with clause (a) of section 7 of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Act, 2012 (XXI of 2012).

- Under section 12(3) of the Drugs Act, 1976, a Drugs Pricing Committee (DPC) has been constituted to fix prices of medicines subject to approval by the Federal Government. In addition to DRAP, the DPC has representation of the Provincial Health Authorities, Ministry of Finance, Consumer Rights Commission of Pakistan & Pakistan Medical Association and Pharmaceutical Industry as observer.
- The DPC fixes prices of drugs on the basis of prices of medicines in the neighbouring countries, competitor prices in the market, cost of production, import prices of the imported drugs and prices of therapeutic equivalents.

(b) Prices are fixed on the basis of multiple parameters such as prices in the neighbouring countries, competitor prices in the market, cost of production, import prices of the imported drugs and prices of therapeutic equivalents and ratio of profit is not regulated as such.

(c) Prices of life saving drugs have not been increased by the Federal Government during last one year. However, 25 companies have increased prices of their 136 drugs after obtaining stay orders from courts and the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan has filed a CMA in the Supreme Court of Pakistan to get these stay orders vacated.

(d) It is a misconception that prices of medicines are cheaper in neighboring countries as compared to Pakistan which is partially true. There are certain drugs which are cheaper in neighboring countries but there are many drugs which are cheaper in Pakistan. In 2013 an apple to apple comparison (multinational to multinational) of 227 dosage forms of essential drugs marketed by multinational companies depicted that 131 (58%) dosage forms are cheaper in Pakistan whereas 96 (42%) dosage forms are cheaper in India. However, prices of drugs marketed by local companies in India are generally lower than prices of drugs marketed by local companies in Pakistan due to following reasons:—

- (i) Raw materials for most commonly used medicines are produced in India whereas in Pakistan share of locally produced raw materials is approximately 5%.

(ii) India has large scale manufacturing base and industry enjoy much larger economies of scale.

(iii) India has developed its industrial base for manufacturing of pharmaceutical machinery and excipients which also decrease manufacturing cost of medicines.

29. ***Nawabzada Saifullah Magsi:** (Notice received on 18-11-2014 at 10:35 a.m.)

Will the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination be pleased to state:

- (a) *the number of cases of Polio, HIV and AIDS registered in the country during the past two years;*
- (b) *the names of foreign countries and international donor agencies which provided aid to control HIV and AIDS in the country during the last two years indicating also the amount provided by each of them and the amount utilized out of the same so far;*
- (c) *the funds / amount released by the Government under the National AIDS Control Programme during the last two years with province-wise break-up; and*
- (d) *the steps taken / being taken by the Government to control HIV / AIDS in the country?*

Mrs. Saira Afzal Tarar : (a) POLIO

The number of cases of Polio registered in the country during the past two years are :

2013 = 93 cases
2014 = 305 cases

The detail of polio cases registered in the country is attached at (Annex-I)

(a) **HIV and AIDS**

The requisite information on the part of National AIDS Control Programme is as under:

The number of cases of HIV and AIDS registered in the country during the past two years;

Year	HIV & AIDS registered Patients
Total Registered Patients September till 2014	11866

September, 2012	6821
Registered in the last two years	5045

(b) **The Global Fund**

Year	US \$ Millions	Utilization (Approx.)
2012-13	1.583	1.578
2013-14	1.472	1.294

(c) **GoP share is only for Federal Level and Provinces have their own PC-Is**

Year	Amount released in million
2012-13	18.000 (Technical Supplementary Grant)
2013-14	19.370

(d) **The steps being taken by the Government for the prevention of HIV/AIDS in the country:**

1. Establishment of 18 HIV/AIDS Treatment, 11 Prevention of Parents to Child Transmission (PPTCT) Centers and 12 Community Home Based Centers (CHBC)
2. Provision of Anti Retroviral (ARV) medicines and test kits to 18 centers.
3. HIV care & support services to HIV infected families
4. HIV diagnostics through National Referral Laboratory, National AIDS Control Programme
5. Referral support to PLHIV registered with ART centers for their medical, psychological and socio-economic needs.
6. Provision of CD4 machines for Balochistan, KPK and Sindh.
7. Capacity building of Provincial Programs and NGOs through training, HR and infrastructure support.
8. Development of Guidelines, policies, Manuals and Standards.
9. Resource mobilization-GFATM, UN system etc
10. Coordination with UN system Provinces and bilateral partners.
11. Data collection and reporting to the international commitments SAARC & MDGs, UNGASS etc.
12. Provision of Data entry operators, counselors and Nurses in 18 treatment centers
13. Provision of vehicles for M&E activities.

Polio Cases 2013-14

	2014	Province	2013
Punjab	7		4
Sindh	10		30
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	11		68
FATA	65		178
Balochistan	0		25
Islamabad	0		0
AJK/GB	0		0
Pakistan	93		305

30. ***Mr. Amar Jeet:** (Notice received on 09-01-2015 at 14:4-)

Will the Minister for Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) *the names, designation and date of present posting of the persons working on regular and daily wages basis in BPS 1 to 16 under the administrative control of GM Punjab, National Highway Authority; and*
- (b) *whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to regularize the services of the said daily wages employees?*

Minister for Communications : (a) 615x Officials of NHA in BS-1 to 16 are working under the administrative control of Regional GMs (Maintenance / Construction) Lahore and Multan. Summary of the working regular officials alongwith their names, designations and date of present posting is at (**Annex-A**). Further no individual is working in Punjab on daily wage basis. However, case of induction of already regularized contract and daily wage officials is subjudice before the Honorable Islamabad High Court.

(b) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration for regularization of daily wages employees.

(Annexure has been placed on the Table of the House as well as Library.)

30-A ***Mr. Rozi Khan Kakar :**(Notice received on 14-01-2015 at 09:15 am.)

Will the Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) *whether it is a fact that a number of persons have been working in Tower Maintenance Department of the Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment Islamabad on contract basis since 2011;*
- (b) *whether it is also a fact that a case for regularization of the services of the said employees is under consideration since September, 2014 but the same has not been*

finalized so far, if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which the same will be finalized and their services will be regularized; and

- (c) *whether it is a fact that those persons have not been paid their salaries for the last four months, if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which the same will be paid to them?*

Pir Syed Sadaruddin Shah Rashidi : (a) In the year 2011, the Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment appointed 38 Persons for the maintenance of Emigration Tower on contract basis for one year. The contract was renewed on yearly basis upto 30-06-2014. Their contract has not been renewed after 30-06-2014

(b) No case for regularization of the services of the said employees is under consideration.

(c) The salaries of these contractual employees have been paid upto June,2014. However, applications for payment of difference of salaries have been received which will be decided on case to case basis, for which the case is under consideration. The dues will be paid if admissible under the rules.

ISLAMABAD :
The 2nd February, 2015.

AMJED PERVEZ,
Secretary.